

LAUREL AVENUE

- 1-B. House (25-27 Laurel Avenue, corner Taft; c. 1885): A Late Victorian, 1½-story, mansard-roofed house with an elaborate cornice; the motifs are repeated in the matching cornice over the bay window and in the bracketed doorhood. The house was the property of Elizabeth M. Warner in 1895. The Warners were listed as farmers in the 1892 Pawtuxet Valley Directory.

MAPLEDALE STREET

- 1-C. Anthony School (1844): A Greek Revival, 1-story school-house, with an oculus in the pedimented end gable. The gable roof is surmounted by a cupola. There are separate entrances for boys and girls at the gable end. There is a third entrance, projecting and enclosed at the side of the building. It is no longer used as a school, but for storage.

MEETING STREET

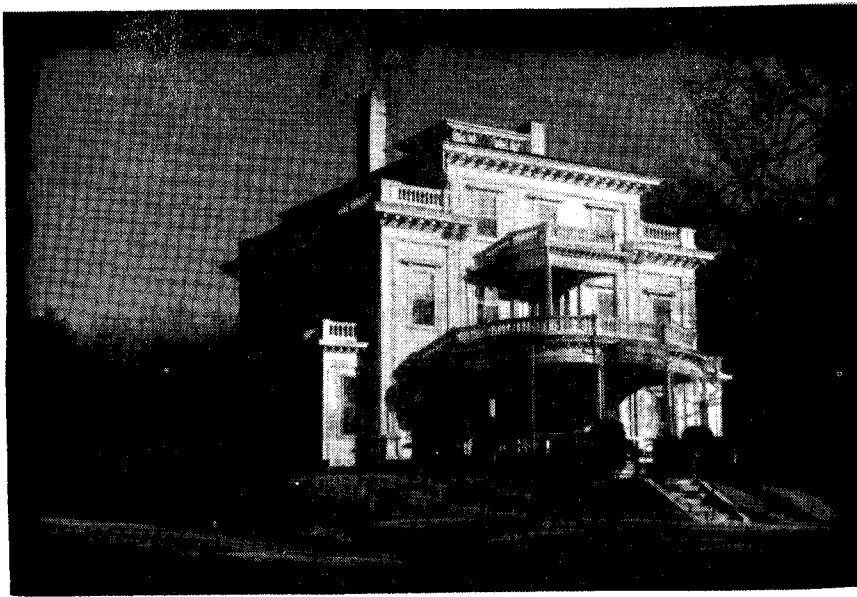
- 1 D. Quaker Meetinghouse (1825): A simple, 1½-story, gable-roofed meetinghouse with a cemetery adjacent. Before the village was officially named Anthony, it was often referred to as "Quaker Village." Worship began here in 1813, in a schoolhouse. A lot was obtained in 1821 and the meetinghouse was erected four years later. Worship was discontinued in 1915, and the building was sold in 1926 to a club; it is still used as a club.

TAFT STREET

- 1-E. Nathanael Greene Homestead (1774): This 2½-story house, set on a granite foundation, has a gable roof, two interior chimney stacks and a 4-room, central-hall plan. It was built for Nathanael Greene after he came to Greeneville to take over management of the Greene forge and other family interests in Coventry. Greene became a major Revolutionary War figure, and is often considered the ablest of Washington's generals. The Homestead has been restored and is maintained as a house museum, open to the public by the Nathanael Greene Homestead Association. The property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is a National Historic Landmark.
- 1-F. Archaeological Site: Within the limits of the Homestead property are the remains of a prehistoric Indian camp site and the site of the Greene forge, located near the fall of the south branch of the Pawtuxet River.

WASHINGTON STREET

- 1-G. Anthony Mill (1874): Designed by the Providence architectural firm Stone and Carpenter. This 5-story, stuccoed, rubble-stone cotton mill has a massive central projecting tower with a belfry. The windows have brick surrounds and rock-faced granite sills. The corners of the building are delineated with quoins. Architecturally, it is one of the finest mills in Rhode Island and has been recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Included in the complex are the much altered remains of the 1810 Anthony Mill.
- 1-H. Mill Agent's House (617 Washington Street; early 19th century): A 2½-story, gable-roofed dwelling with splayed lintels and an elaborate portico entrance, built to house the mill agent for the Coventry Company. Eugene Warner, a lawyer, and his brother John, superintendent for the Coventry Company mills lived here in 1892.
- 1-I. Mill Overseers' House (619 Washington Street; early 19th century): A large, 1½-story, gable-roofed dwelling, built to house the overseers for the Coventry Company. Part of the building overlooks Boston Street; its Washington Street facade overlooks a small green, with a bench and a war memorial, situated directly opposite the mill.
- 1-J. Coventry Bank (667 Washington Street; c. 1840): A 2½-story Greek Revival building with a gable roof and two interior chimneys. The Coventry Bank was organized here in 1852. The building has been altered; its handsome portico entrance and side porch are later additions.
- 1-K. Anthony Library (672 Washington Street; 1902): A brick, 1-story library with a slate mansard roof. The Library Association was chartered in 1808 and met previously in many locations.
- 1-L. Nina Nicholas House (681 Washington Street; c. 1882): A Late Victorian, 2½-story residence, set back from the street. It has a cross-gabled roof with a corner bay capped by a turret; there is an open porch across the front facade. The house is named for its present owner, the former owner of the Nicholas Farm. The house was built by Searles Capwell, a local builder, who ran a planing and turning mill and a sash and blind shop on the site of Perez Peck's machine shop in Anthony. Capwell built many of the Late Victorian residences in Anthony and this is a fine example.
- 1-M. Byron Read Building (702 Washington Street; c. 1882): A 1½-story mansard-roofed commercial building with store fronts across the facade of the first floor. The largest



Elisha Harris House (c. 1840); 546 Main Street, Harris.
(Map # 23-F)



Christopher Greene House (1882); 2 Potter Court, Harris.
(Map # 23-P)

store in town at the turn-of-the-century, it sold furniture and hardware items; an undertaking business was also located in this building.

- 1-N. Byron Read House (721 Washington Street; c. 1887): A 3-story, many gabled, Late Victorian house, built as a home for Byron Read who had the largest store in town and was also the town undertaker. The building is presently used as a funeral parlor.
- 1-O. Manchester Estate (777 Washington Street; 1808-1815): There are two houses here: a 2½-story dwelling with a gable roof and center chimney, portico entrance and a porch with a gazebo roof; and a 2½-story, square residence with a hip roof and a portico with a balustrade. Both houses were built by the Manchester family and owned by them until recently.
- 1-P. Knotty Oak Baptist Church (793 Washington Street; c. 1840): Situated at a cross roads where four cemeteries meet, the church was originally a simple Greek Revival Meetinghouse. It has been transformed by the addition of a steeple-belfry, rose-window and, more recently, a portico entrance.

2. ARKWRIGHT

Arkwright is situated on a very beautiful stretch of the Pawtuxet River, in the northeastern corner of Coventry and extends into Cranston and Scituate. It was known in the 18th century as Remington's Run (for the largest landowner); with the erection of a sawmill, gristmill and machine shop in the early 19th century, the village became known as Burlingame's Mills. In 1809, a consortium (James DeWolf of Bristol, Dr. Caleb Fiske and his son, Philip, and Asher Robbins) formed the "Arkwright Manufacturing Company" and christened the village "Arkwright" in honor of Richard Arkwright, the English inventor and millwright. They began manufacturing cotton here in 1810. The original mill buildings have not survived, but mill housing dating from this era survives on the south side of the river opposite the mill. In 1883, the company was sold and then incorporated as the "Arkwright-Interlaken Company." A dye house and bleachery built at that time comprise what was until recently the oldest manufactory of cotton bookcloth in the United States. These buildings have been altered and added onto in the early 20th century.

Route 115

- 2-A Arkwright Mills: A mill complex comprising 1- and 2-story brick mill buildings dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The buildings are plain and

functional, with the only decoration being the corbelled brick cornices and the granite sills.

- 2-B. Arkwright Bridge (1888): Dean and Westbrook of New York built this 125-foot, single-span, Pratt through-truss bridge, using Phoenix columns. The bridge carries a roadway over the Pawtuxet River, just north of the mills. Built with unusually light members, this bridge is considered one of the finest surviving truss bridges in Rhode Island. It is also the only Phoenix column bridge known to survive in the state. The Phoenix column, patented by Samuel Reeves in 1862, and resembling an earlier column developed by Wendell Bollman, consists of four flanged, wrought-iron segments bolted together, like barrel staves, to form a cylinder. Phoenix columns provided greater tensile strength than cast-iron columns and were widely used in buildings and bridges by the 1870s. The bridge has been recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

- 2-C. Interlaken Mill Bridge (c. 1885): This 100-foot long, single-span, lenticular truss bridge was built by the Berlin Iron Bridge Company, East Berlin, Connecticut. It connected the new dye house and bleachery of the Interlaken Company on the north side of the Pawtuxet River with the former Arkwright Mills on the south bank. The lenticular, or parabolic, truss was designed in 1878 by William O. Douglas of New York. The Berlin Company had a virtual monopoly on this bridge type and this is the only lenticular truss known to survive in Rhode Island. It has been recommended for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

HENRY, MORAN, PIERCE and RICHARD COURTS (on the Coventry-Scituate-Cranston line)

- 2-D. Mill Houses (c. 1820, 1880): These four short streets form the residential village cluster of Arkwright. The mill houses are substantial, 2½-story dwellings built for two families, with gable roofs, two end chimneys, and 1-story, open, attached porches across the facades, overlooking the large yards.

BLACK ROCK

Black Rock is situated north of the village of Anthony on the road to Arkwright. It is named for the large glacial outcrop that can still be seen on Black Rock Road. Small cotton mills located near Black Rock manufactured cotton cloth here before 1814, but these ceased production by mid-century. With the loss of its industry, Black Rock became more of an extension of the villages of Anthony to the south

and Arkwright to the north. Situated on high ground and nestling among winding roads, Black Rock is only now beginning to be affected by suburbanization.

BLACK ROCK ROAD

3. House (100 Black Rock Road; c. 1814): A 1½-story dwelling with a steeply pitched roof and center chimney. The house faces the Rock and not the road.
4. Black Rock: A large granite boulder, a glacial outcrop, this landmark gave its name to the vicinity.
5. House (535 Black Rock Road; c. 1840): A 1½-story Greek Revival dwelling, set gable end to the road. The roof has a modillion cornice, and the corner boards are similarly embellished with modillions and guttae. The enclosed porch across the front is a later addition.

GERVAIS STREET

6. House (c. 1855): An Early Victorian 1½-story house with a gable roof, set on high ground. The central doorway has a handsome door hood, supported by scroll brackets.

HILL STREET

7. House (53-55 Hill Street; c. 1820): A typical early 19th-century 2½-story house with a gable roof and a center chimney. The central doorway has a plain cornice and a transom light.
8. House (122 Hill Street; 1850): A 1½-story, Greek Revival house, set with its pedimented gable end to the street. It has a pilastered, side-hall entrance with side lights; the large shed dormer is a later addition. A cemetery is adjacent to the house.
9. House: (137 Hill Street; 1845): A 1½-story, Greek Revival house with a gable roof. The simple corniced doorway is elaborated with a dentil course.
10. Chace House (c. 1820): Situated alongside a brook, this 1½-story house, with a steeply pitched roof and center chimney, is located near the site of an early 19th-century cotton mill run by the Chace family. The fluted, pilastered central doorway is a later addition.
11. Lillibridge House (178 Hill Street; c. 1855): An Early Victorian, 1½-story house with a gable roof, center chimney and side wings with open porches. The doorway has a bracketed hood. A handsome stone retaining wall acts as the rear wall for the property.

12. House (374 Hill Street; 1756): A much altered mid-18th-century dwelling with a steeply pitched roof. The 1-story side ell is a later addition.

13. COVENTRY CENTRE

Coventry Centre is located centrally within the township, on the Flat River, where it descends from the Flat River Reservoir. Prior to 1800, the area was referred to as "Maroon Swamp." In it was the site of an 18th-century forge, built by the Greene family. Here bog iron was smelted and anchors were produced for use on ships in the Revolutionary War. A cotton mill was erected in 1809 and the new village was first referred to as Shoethread, and later as Central Factory. In 1845, the Whipple cotton mill was built--then sold three years later to Pardon Peckham. Peckham enlarged the village, building double mill houses, which still have their original "necessaries"--outhouses--in the back yards. The village became the seat of the Peckham Manufacturing Company and in 1859 a lower mill was built where cotton yarn was manufactured; cloth was made in the Upper Mill. Nearby--off the Trestle Trail (once the Railroad bed--Foster Ledge Quarry was opened in 1862 by Horace Foster. It was worked throughout the 19th century, providing the stone for many of the Pawtuxet Valley mills. The granite and Coventry Centre's textile goods were easily shipped out as the village was on the Providence, Hartford and Fishkill Railroad. Because of the village's central location and accessibility by rail, a Town House was built here in 1879 (the first Town House was located at Potterville) but the seat of government was soon moved to Washington, where the post office and commercial and banking centers were located. Coventry Centre exists today as a still remote village cluster; with its two mills and the railroad depot (now stores), a modern church and about a dozen houses.

FLAT RIVER ROAD-ROUTE 117

- 13-A. Double Houses (c. 1848-1849): Three, Greek Revival, 1½-story, 2-family mill houses with gable roofs and shed dormers, built by Pardon Peckham for his mill hands.
- 13-B. House (c. 1810): A much altered, 2½-story, shingled dwelling with a gable roof and large center chimney. A later 1-story open attached porch covers the front.
- 13-C. Lower Mill (1859): A 3-story, stuccoed, rubble-stone mill embellished with granite quoins, lintels and sills overlooking the mill pond. The 2-story addition was built in 1864. Cotton yarn was produced here. The mill is now used for a flea market.

- 13-D. Flat River Railroad Bridge (1910): Built by the Pennsylvania Steel Company of Steelton, Pennsylvania. This steel-beam railroad bridge spans the Flat River Reservoir. Its large abutments are constructed of cut stone. The bridge is a common type of early 20th-century railroad spans. It was used by the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad. It no longer carries tracks. It replaced an earlier bridge on the site that served the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad.
- 13-E. Goff House (late 18th century): A 1½-story, gambrel-roofed house with a central chimney and dormers. The house was built by the Goff family, who sold the land for the first cotton mill at Coventry Centre.

HILL FARM ROAD

- 13-F. St. Germain's Store (1878): A 1-story, stuccoed, rubble-stone building with a gable roof and large basement. Heavy granite lintels support the warehouse doors. The fenestration has been altered. It was built for the Rhode Island Processing Company (the mill's owners at that time), as a store and warehouse; village meetings were also held here.
- 13-G. Three Double Houses (c. 1848-1849): Three, 2-family mill houses, 1½-stories with gable roofs and shed dormers. Private outhouses still stand in the back yards. These dwellings were built by Pardon Peckham for his employees.
- 13-H. Railroad Depot (c. 1856): A 1-story railroad depot with a gable roof and one end chimney. A narrow shed roof projects from the facade, where the building faced the platform. The building was moved from its original location, after the railroad tracks had been removed from western Coventry in this century. It is now a store.
- 13-I. Upper Mill (1875): A 3-story frame mill with a 2-story addition. T-shaped, it was built for the manufacture of cotton cloth for Spring Lake blue jeans. The brick smoke-stack still stands. The mill is now a used furniture and antique store.

PECKHAM LANE

- 13-J. Christ Church Episcopal (1917): A small, rectangular church building, built in Tudor, half-timbered style with a belfry surmounted by a cross. There is a projecting, enclosed entryway with a gable roof, located at the side of the building.

- 13-K. Pardon Peckham House (c. 1848): A 1-story Greek Revival dwelling, set gable end to the road. On high ground, the house has a 1-story rear ell. It was built for Pardon Peckham, who bought the mill at Coventry Centre in 1848.
- 13-L. Rowhouse (c. 1848): A 1½-story, Greek Revival rowhouse, with three doorways, a gable roof and shed dormers, built to house mill hands.
- 13-M. Adventist Camp Meeting Grounds: Situated adjacent to (and originally a part of) the Peckham estate is a large field enclosed by massive stone walls. It is now used as an Adventist Camp Meeting Ground. The entire Peckham Lane complex has a series of walls along the lane itself, and various rectangular stone enclosures, possibly intended to contain animals.

PHILLIP'S HILL ROAD

- 13-N. Houses (c. 1810): Two mill houses; small 1½-story cottages with steeply pitched roofs.
- 13-O. Coventry Town House (1879): Built by Lewis Walker of Jericho (now Arctic, West Warwick) at a cost of \$1300. A large, frame, rectangular, meeting hall with a gable roof. Two doors flank a central window at the gable end. A probate court in the 1930s, it is now used for storage.

TRESTLE TRAIL

- 13-P. Quarry Men's Houses (c. 1862): Two identical, 2½-story, dressed-granite tenements, with full basements and cross-gabled roofs. The dwellings were built to house the quarry men, who worked the Foster Ledge Quarry. The buildings are built of Foster Ledge granite. One house is intact and has been restored, while the other, struck by lightning, is a partial ruin.
- 13-Q. Foster Ledge Quarry: The ledge was opened in 1862 by Horace Foster and granite was quarried here throughout the 19th century. It provided stone for many of the Pawtuxet Valley mills, like the Centerville mill in West Warwick. Horace Foster was the most prolific mason in the area; among his many building projects were the Tiogue Reservoir and dam, the Arctic Mill Store, the second mill building at Crompton, the Harris Mill at Riverpoint, abutments for many railroad bridges and the State Farm and the foundations for the State Prison in Cranston.

14. GREENE

In the 18th century, the area that is now Greene was a mere intersection of two roads--Hopkins Hollow Road (part of the 8 Rod Highway) and Coffin Road (named for the Coffin

family of Nantucket, some of whom settled here). It became a village by 1856, created solely by and for the Hartford, Providence and Fishkill Railroad. Greene served as a depot and market for the surrounding farm community, providing quick rail transport for fresh produce to Providence. The first train stopped in 1854 at a make-shift station; a new station was built in 1856, with village buildings following. Greene is located on Buckshorn Brook, two and a half miles east of the Connecticut state line and about the same distance from Summit, the next station to the east on the line. Before the naming of the new settlement by railroad officials in 1856 in honor of the Revolutionary War Hero General Nathanael Greene, the stop was referred to as "Coffin Station." By the end of the 19th century it had become an important stop on the daily "milk run" (a special milk platform was set up at the station) to Providence, as much of the city's dairy goods came from the farms surrounding Greene. It was also an important "wooding" station, supplying large quantities of lumber. The development at Greene diminished the importance of earlier centers such as Hopkings Hollow and Rice City, bypassed by the Railroad. Greene prospered not only as a depot from which lumber and dairy products were shipped out, but also as a commercial center for the neighborhood. New industry located in the village. A sawmill and a planing mill, a box factory, a horn jewelry business, an acid factory and as many as four stores were among the ventures that Greene boasted. By the late 1860s a new residential area, Benefit Street, was laid out to serve a growing populace. A section of the nearby Great Cedar Swamp was transformed into a cranberry bog, which became a thriving business in the latter half of the 19th century. The cranberry business still survives, although on a much smaller scale. Located one quarter of a mile south of Greene, is a fifty-acre site given over to the Greene Advent Camp Meeting in 1880, still an important annual religious meeting place in western Coventry. As recently as World War I, the Lewis-Peavey mill site was converted for use as an experimental laboratory, working with poison gases. Since World War II, the Greene Herb Gardens (formerly part of the Arnold Farms) was established, one of the earliest attempts at wholesale organic gardening in this country and a popular local attraction and landmark until 1972, when the scale of business was reduced drastically, continuing now only as a mail-order operation. Much industry has left, as has the railroad, but Greene remains a substantial community, if somewhat sleepy.

ROUTE 117

- 14-A. Railroad Depot (c. 1856): A 2½-story, frame building with a gable roof and an attached open front porch with a shed roof. It has been moved from its original location, south